

**Patent claims:**

1. Grinding machine (13), particularly for grinding frozen and fresh meat, with a set of cutters (14) displaying at least one blade (4, 15), characterised in that the set of cutters (14) displays a safety device downstream of the last blade (15) in the direction of material flow to prevent the operator from being injured by the blade (15).
2. Grinding machine as per Claim 1, characterised in that it can only be put into operation when the safety device is inserted.
3. Grinding machine as per Claim 1 or 2, characterised in that the safety device is a perforated plate (6) with a hole diameter  $\leq 6$  mm and preferably a thickness of  $\geq 5$  mm.
4. Grinding machine as per Claim 3, characterised in that it displays thickness monitoring of the perforated plate (6), which is preferably linked to the operating time of the perforated plate, where the grinding machine can preferably not be put into operation when the perforated plate drops below a minimum thickness as a result of wear.
5. Grinding machine as per Claim 1 or 2, characterised in that the safety device is integrated into the lock nut (8).
6. Perforated plate (6) with holes, particularly as part of a set of cutters (14) for a grinding machine (13) for grinding meat and/or other substances of similar consistency, characterised in that it displays a means on which data can be stored and retrieved that permit unequivocal identification of the perforated plate.

7. Perforated plate as per Claim 6, characterised in that the identification particularly contains information concerning the size of the holes and, preferably, the thickness of the perforated plate.
8. Perforated plate as per Claim 6 or 7, characterised in that additional data, preferably the operating time and stress of the perforated plate, can be stored on the means and retrieved.
9. Perforated plate as per Claim 8, characterised in that the operating time and stress of the perforated plate are used to determine its wear.
10. Perforated plate as per one of Claims 6 to 9, characterised in that the means is provided in a sealed cavity.
11. Perforated plate as per one of Claims 6 to 10, characterised in that the means is linked to a transmitter (9) and receiver (9) system in bi-directional fashion.
12. Perforated plate as per one of Claims 6 to 11, characterised in that the means is a sensor chip.
13. Grinding machine, preferably a meat grinder, displaying a perforated plate as per one of Claims 6 to 12.
14. Grinding machine as per Claim 13, characterised in that the perforated plate (6) is located downstream of the last blade (15) in the direction of material flow.
15. Method for securing grinding machines with a perforated plate according to Claims 6 to 12, characterised in that data for identifying the perforated plate (6) located downstream of the last blade (15) in the grinding machine (13) in the direction of material flow are retrieved and a check is made of whether the respective perforated plate (6) satisfies the respective safety standards, and in

that the grinding machine can only be put into operation if the result of this check is positive.

14. Method as per Claim 15, characterised in that the operating time and mechanical stress of the perforated plate (6) are additionally retrieved and used to check its wear and in that the grinding machine cannot be started in the event of excessive wear.